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By: Nancy Foster

PATENT Customer No. 22,852

Attorney Docket No. 07414.0020-03000

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

H. Michael WENZ

Application No.: 09/724,755

Filed: November 28, 2000

For: METHODS FOR DETECTING
TARGET NUCLEIC ACIDS USING
COUPLED LIGATION

AMPLIFICATION

Croup Art Unit: 1637

Examiner: J. FREDMAN
Confirmation No.: 8421

Confirmation No.: 8421

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

AMENDMENT

Applicant now responds to the Office Action mailed January 31, 2005 ("the Action"). The period to respond has been extended three months by the Petition for Three Month Extension of Time filed herewith. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of all outstanding rejections.

Amendments to the claims appear at pages 2 to 5.

Remarks appear at pages 6 to 15.